GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1334
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007
INFILTRATION BY TERRORISTS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Khanna Shri Avinash Rai;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intelligence agencies have warned about the possibility of terrorists trying to infiltrate through the sea route or trying to target our offshore installations;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reasons for being the coastal areas of the country unsecured;

(d) the details of proposals/plans to set up special Coast Guard units for the coastal areas particularly the Kerala coast;

(e) whether maritime terrorism, gun-running, drug trafficking and piracy are major threats that India is facing from the sea borders of the country; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to counter these threats and strengthening the security of coastal areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. There are reports about terrorists of various tanzeems being imparted training and likelihood of their infiltration through sea routes. India's coastal waters are guarded by the Indian Coast Guard in coordination with the State Police and the Navy. The Coast Guard has plans to augment its strength, infrastructure and other assets to further improve its effectiveness all along the coastal areas including Kerala.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The measures that have been taken and planned to enhance the coastal security include regular aerial surveillance and maritime patrolling along the coast, establishment of coastal police stations in the littoral States, as part of Coastal Security Scheme, vessel monitoring system, etc.